COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

| FLEMING-MASON RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION |)) |
|--|------------------------------|
| AND | , , |
| CONTINENTAL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF KENTUCKY |) CASE NO. 9988)) |
| ALLEGED FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE COMMISSION'S REGULATION 807 KAR 5:006, SECTION 24 |)))) |

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

On August 7, 1987, the Commission issued an Order in this proceeding which it rescinds and replaces with the following:

Pleming-Mason Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation ("Pleming-Mason"), a corporation which engages in the distribution and transmission of electricity to the public for compensation for light, heat, power and other uses, is a utility as defined in KRS 278.010.

Continental Telephone Company of Kentucky ("Contel"), a corporation which owns and operates facilities used in connection with the transmission over wire of messages by telephone for the public for compensation, is a utility as defined in KRS 278.010.

KRS 278.280 authorizes the Commission to prescribe rules for the performance of any service furnished or supplied by a utility.

Pursuant to this authority, the Commission has promulgated a rule, codified at 807 KAR 5:006, Section 24, which requires prompt notification to the Commission of any utility related accident which results in death to any person. Notice must be given by telephone or telegraph. A summary written report must be submitted within seven days of the accident.

The Commission staff has submitted to the Commission a report of Accident Investigation, attached hereto as Appendix A, which alleges that:

- 1. On April 29, 1987, Mr. Hazel McCarthey, a resident of Maysville, Kentucky, was fatally injured when the tractor which he was operating became entangled with down guys owned by Contel and Fleming-Mason.
- 2. The accident occurred on April 29, 1987, at approximately 5:00 p.m. in Maysville, Kentucky. Employees of Fleming-Mason discovered Mr. McCarthey's body approximately two and a half hours later.
- 3. Fleming-Mason failed to notify the Commission of the accident until April 30, 1987, at 3:07 p.m. A summary written report was not submitted to the Commission until June 3, 1987, thirty-five days after the accident occurred.
- 4. Contel was notified of the accident by telephone by Fleming-Mason on April 30, 1987, at 7:00 a.m. It failed to notify the Commission of the accident or submit to the Commission a summary written report.

- 5. Fleming-Mason violated 807 KAR 5:006, Section 24, by failing to notify the Commission promptly of the accident and to submit a summary written report within the prescribed time.
- 6. Contel violated 807 KAR 5:006, Section 24, by failing to notify the Commission of the accident and to submit a summary written report on it.

WHEREFORE, the Commission, on its own Motion, hereby ORDERS that:

- The previous initiating Order issued in this case be and it hereby is rescinded and this Order issued in its stead.
- 2. Fleming-Mason and Contel shall appear before the Commission on September 17, 1987, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in the Commission's offices at Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purposes of presenting evidence concerning the incident which is the subject of the report of Accident Investigation, specifically the alleged violations of 807 KAR 5:006, Section 24, and of showing cause why they should not be subject to the penalties prescribed in KRS 278.990 for failure to comply with the Commission's regulations.
- 3. The report of the Accident Investigation shall be and hereby is included as part of the record of this proceeding.
- 4. Fleming-Mason and Contel shall have until the close of business two weeks from the date of this Order to submit written responses to the allegations contained in the report of the Accident Investigation.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 17th day of August, 1987.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

Squer M Welland

ATTEST:

Executive Director

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO.9988 DATED 8/17/87

ELECTRICAL UTILITY ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

| DATE OF THIS REPOR | T 6/8/87 | SUBMITTED BY | Jeffery L | . Gilpin |
|---|------------------|------------------|--|----------|
| NAME OF UTILITY F | leming-Mason REC | C | | |
| ACCIDENT REPORTED | | | | |
| DATE & TIME ACCIDE | NT REPORTED 4/3 | 0/87 3:07 P.M. | ************************************** | |
| DATE AND TIME ACCI | DENT OCCURRED 4 | /29/87 5:00 P.M. | • | |
| DATE OF ACCIDENT I | NVESTIGATION _5/ | 1/87 | ····· | |
| DATE SUMMARY WRITT | | | | |
| PERSONS ASSISTING | IN THE INVESTIGA | TION Steve Soude | er-Fleming- | Mason |
| RECC | | | | • |
| | | | | |
| NAME OF VICTIM(S) | | rthey | SEX M | AGE 88 |
| PATAL Yes | NAME OF EMPLOYE | R: Self-employe | ed farmer. | |
| INJURIES | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | 2. | | SEX | AGE |
| PATAL | NAME OF EMPLOYE | R: | | |
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| | 3. | | SEX | AGE |
| PATAL | NAME OF EMPLOYE | | | |
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Page 1 of 4

ELECTRICAL UTILITY ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION (Continued)

| LOCATION OF ACCIDENT SITE Off of Old Sardis Pike in Mason County, |
|---|
| Kentucky, at the victim's residence. |
| DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT The victim was mowing grass around the edge |
| of his yard with a farm tractor and a cutter bar mower when the mower |
| became entangled in a Contel Telephone Company down guy. Apparently |
| the contact with the Contel guy caused the tractor to swing sharply |
| to the right and become entangled in Fleming-Mason's down guy which |
| broke the top off of the pole. When the pole broke the slack in the |
| Fleming-Mason down guy wrapped around the tractors rear tire and the |
| victim's chest. As the tractor continued forward the rotation of the |
| wheels tightened the cable across the victim and caused his death. |
| SOURCE OF INFORMATION Steve Souder, Fleming-Mason RECC: Pleming- |
| Mason's Summary Accident Report; onsite investigation. |
| VIOLATIONS OF COMMISSION REGULATIONS This accident occurred on April |
| 29, 1987, at 5:00 P.M. and was not reported until April 30, 1987, at |
| 3:07 P.M. This is in violation of KAR 5:006, Section 24 which re- |
| quires that the utility give prompt notice of all fatal accidents. |
| The Commission did not receive the utility's written summary report |
| of this accident until June 3, 1987. This is in violation of KAR |
| 5:006, Section 24 which requires that a written summary report be |
| submitted within 7 days. |
| RECOMMENDATIONS To be in compliance with KAR 5:006, Section 24, the |
| utility should provide the Commission with prompt notice of all fatal |
| accidents and submit a summary written report within 7 days. The |
| prompt notice should be given to the Commission even if details are |
| sketchy. Additional information can be given at a later time if |
| necessary. |

| CORRECTIVE ACTION | | | | |
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LINE CLEARANCES

| | | As Heasured | Minimum Allowed by NESC |
|-----|--|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| A. | AT POINT OF ACCIDENT | | |
| | Phase conductor to ground elevation: | N/A | N/A |
| | Neutral conductor to ground elevation: | N/A | N/A |
| | Communication conductor to ground elevation: | N/A | N/A |
| | Phase conductor to structure: | N/A | N/A |
| | Neutral conductor to structure: | N/A | N/A |
| | Communication conductor to structure: | N/A | N/A |
| в. | AT LOWEST POINT OF SPAN | | |
| | Phase conductor to ground elevation: | N/A | N/A |
| | Neutral conductor to ground elevation: | N/A | N/A |
| | Communication conductor to ground elevation: | N/A | N/A· |
| c. | SPAN LENGTH N/A | | |
| Dat | e the line or facilities were co | nstructed: | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| UEI | lity: Fleming-Mason RECC | | |
| Dat | e: <u>5/1/87</u> I | ime 10:30 A.M. | |
| λρφ | roximate temperature: 82 Degre | es F | |
| Hea | surements made by: | | |

Submitted by:

Page 4 of 4

FLEMING-MASON RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION



Huston Delaney, President & General Manager P.O. BOX 328 FLEMINGSBURG, KY. 41041 Phone (606) 845-2661

RECEIVED

June 2, 1987

JUN 0 1997

DIVISION OF UTILITY ENGINEERING & SERVICES

Jeff Gilpin
Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

Dear Jeff:

Enclosed please find the following items relating to the Hazel McCarthey accident in Mason County which you investigated.

Summary "Hazel McCarthey's Fatal Accident" Coroner's Investigation Report Sheriff's Report Ambulance Operators Report Sketch of Scene

Very truly yours,

SDS/pdp

Enclosures

HAZEL McCARTHEY'S FATAL ACCIDENT

The following is a reconstruction of events on the evening of April 29, 1987 concerning the Hazel McCarthey accident based on an interview by Steve Souder with Russie Dunaway, Steve Harn and Jack Owens, with Louis Flanery being present.

John Fulton or Elmer Fulton called Marjorie Royse about 5:00 p.m. to report the power off at account number 19-78-02. This information was relayed by Reno McGlone to Russie and Steve who were working on another outage between Elizaville and Hilltop. They finished their work in the Elizaville-Hilltop area and proceeded to the John R. Fulton residence and determined that the distribution line was de-energized. They went to reclose number 223 which was locked out. It was successfully closed at 6:37 p.m. with no subsequent operations. Returning to the John R. Fulton residence they saw the lights on and decided to patrol the rest of the circuit to determine the cause of the outage. They discovered a tap line out of sag and thinking that the wind had probably caused this line to short decided to resag the line. To gain access to the terminal pole they contacted Emery Vice who went with them to open gates and show them the way to the pole on which they planned to work. They resaged the line and left the field at about 7:15 p.m. Returning to Emery Vice's house they were trimming some limbs which were near a service wire when Reno called to report service along the line section was still off.

They patrolled the line further specifically investigating the line which was recently resagged when they came upon the

brockn pole at Mr. McCarthey's. The pole had been broken at the telephone attachment, the telephone cable was on the ground and the electric conductors were still attached to the pole top.

Russie approached a tractor which was caught up in the guy wires and saw that Mr. McCarthey was still slumped in the tractor seat with his head down near the foot petals. Russie called to Steve to bring rubber gloves and bolt cutters. They cut the electric conductors and guy wire. After straightening Mr. McCarthey back up in the tractor seat Russie left to call for help while Steve supported Mr. McCarthey. Russie went to Emery Vice's house; Mr. Vice called the Palmer Funeral Home in Mayalick at about 7:15 to 7:30 p.m. When Russia returned to Mr. McCarthey's, Winnie Sweet was arriving also. Mr. Sweet and Steve tried resuscitation techniques on Mr. McCarthey but to no avail. They continued to hold Mr. McCarthey's head until the ambulance arrived at 7:50 p.m. At some point during the time, between Russie's return and the arrival of the ambulance, Rose Ann Palmer and another lady arrived and on Mrs. Palmer's advice Mr. McCarthey was removed from the tractor and placed on the ground.

James Brell, Mason County Coroner, and Charles Lang, Mason County Deputy Sheriff, came to the site. Jack Owens of Fleming-Mason RECC arrived at about 8:25 p.m. He called Huston Delaney then isolated the line to Mr. McCarthey's and restored power to the line section.

Contel Telephone Company was notified by Jack at 7:00 a.m. on April 30.

CORONER'S INVESTIGATION REPORT

| Time S.CO. P.M. Time of Arrival 8.45 P.M. | 7 |
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| A4 | 5 |
| Name of Deceased: Hazel M. Mc Corthey | |
| (First) (Middle) (Last) | |
| Place of Death: Residence - (Mame, Heepital, Place of Injury or accident, or other) Massis | |
| (Causty) (State) | |
| Address: KR 2 Mainter & Mascin King (State) | |
| Time of Death: 5:00 PM Date of Death: April 29 1987 | |
| Date of Birth: January 3 1899 Place of Birth: Kentuck | ¥ |
| (Menth) (Oay) (Year) (City) (County) (\$tate) |) |
| Age: Sex: Race: Widowed: Divorced: Sep: | |
| Next of Kin: SCI McCarthy Whis like is like to Porthe (Relationship) | 12~ |
| Maiden Name (if wife surviving spouse) None | |
| Father's Name: George William McGarTheMother's Maiden Name: Clara Brookis | 14 |
| Social Security Number 403-52-8275 Occupation Farmer | |
| Employed By: Self | |
| Height 5' 6" Weight 110 16s Eyes Helr | • |
| TOUT | - |
| Pronounced Dead by: | |
| 0 | - |
| Police agency and investigator: Mascin County Sheriff's Off | تَدُو |
| Police agency and investigator: Mascin County Sheriff's Off Clothed Partially clothed Unclothed | اَدُو |
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| Date Time Location City or County Last Seen Alive 4-29-87 Death Discovered 4-29-87 View of Body Lie Steve Harn Russell Dunaway Name Russell Dunaway History: U Strat Was mouning ciras's with a farm Trace | Ile Ile |
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| Date Time Location City or County Last Seen Alive 4-29-87 Death Discovered 4-29-87 View of Body Lie Steve Harn Russell Dunaway Name Russell Dunaway History: U Strat Was mouning ciras's with a farm Trace | <u></u> |

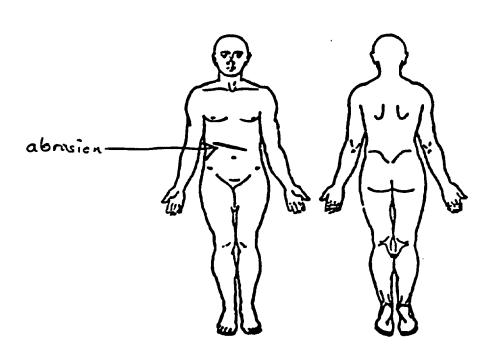
Mason County Coroner's Office

JAMES A. BRELL, CORONER

Phone 606 564-6012
620 East Second St. Maysville, Ky. 41056

yard causing The victim's Tractor To come in Contact with a second anchor cable (power). The tractor became enlangled in the power line anchor cable causing The cable to become wrapped around the victim's ipper abdomen causing death by asphyriation. The pull on the power line anchor cable was such that utility pole top was broken off (allowing slack in the cable to be wrapped around the victim

| Personal Physician (Name) | (Address) | (Fhane No.) |
|---|--|-------------|
| vidence obtained at scene: <u>Non e</u> | | |
| | | |
| Name of Suspect: No Ke | Address: | |
| Autopsy: Yes NoX | | |
| Suspected cause of death: a) QSphu V / | iation (compress | ion) |
| b) addem n | al strangulation | |
| c) Wire r | apped around Be | ody Trunk |
| | Accident Homicide Jnknown Pending | |
| Photos Taken (X) Blood Sample Tek | | 170 |
| Body Released to CIME - F. | H. Mayslick | |



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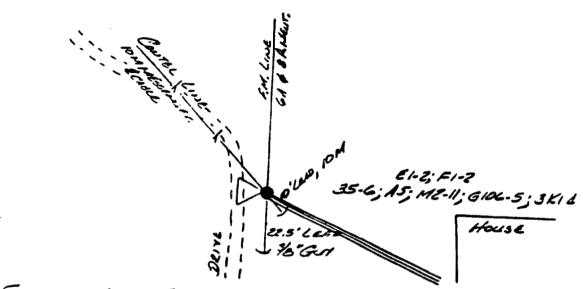
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Death Ruled Accidental

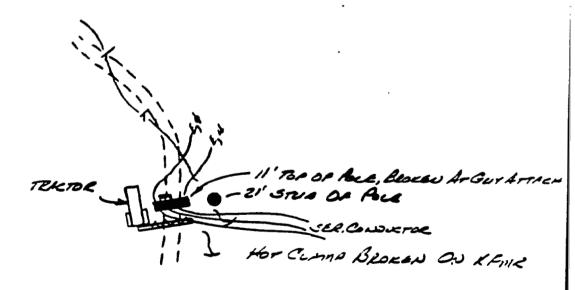
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| CITY/STATE / | Z₽ COO€ | VEHICLE LICENSE NO. | AMBULANCE SERVICE LICENSE NUMBER | . No. Patient Refused . No. Could Not Lecate |
| PHONE SEX HEIGHT | WEIGHT AGE DOD | COUNTY CODE OF | 10160 | L (No. Felsa fluit 17 No. Other |
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A-30-87 SD. SOUCE



FLE -MS MISON FASILIFIES BEFORE ACIDENT



APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS 1-30-87 AFTER ACCIONT